

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 3, 2000

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I have approved Senate Bill 125 as 1999 Wisconsin Act 109 and have deposited it in the Office of the Secretary of State. I have exercised the partial veto in Section 43.

SB 125 makes numerous changes to the laws relating to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence (OWI) of an intoxicant or controlled substance. The bill establishes a grant program for OWI prevention, increases penalties for OWI violations and enforces stricter standards for repeat offenders.

Section 43 increases the fines for a second OWI conviction based on the number of prior class B felony (vehicular homicide) OWI convictions in a person's lifetime plus the number of suspensions and revocations within a ten-year period. Section 47 doubles the penalties for persons convicted of having an alcohol concentration of 0.17 to 0.199. I am partially vetoing section 43 to remove the reference to section 47 because section 47 has no impact on the penalties applied in section 43.

I believe that it is important to keep Wisconsin roadways safe by limiting the occurrence of OWI incidents. SB 125 launches innovative prevention programs and gives law enforcement the tools to enforce stricter OWI standards.

Sincerely,



TOMMY G. THOMPSON  
Governor